

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION  
MONDAY, DEC. 12, 2011  
DENNIS TOWN OFFICES  
UPSTAIRS SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM 6:30 PM**

**PRESENT: Chairman John Lowell, Members Laura McDowell-May, Patti Eldredge, Cheryl Malone, Selectwoman Heidi Schadt**

**STAFF: Karen Johnson, Director of Natural Resources,**

**Kathleen Travelo was also present.**

The meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

The results of the reference checks were reviewed:

Eldredge (current landlord) – Ms. Cash has had her 3 horses with him less than 1 year. He finds that she fixes things without being asked and pays on time.

Nash – known her since 1986 (college), she keep horses and stable clean, well kept. She is very knowledgeable about horses, etc.

Dr. Leach (vet) – has known her a long time. Keeps her stables clean, has well-kept horses, pays on time always.

E. Aleo – dealt with her in regards to handicapped children and programs: is excellent with horses and kids. Provides excellent programs, is kind and caring.

J. O'Connor – very knowledgeable, takes good care of horses.

H. Sporborg – knows husband better; he is straight-shooter and credible.

K. Miller – keeps a clean stable, uses preventive medicines, etc. learns and is good teacher.

T. Kochka – No issues. Provides referrals for horse therapy. Considers her a professional.

L. Baldwin – not reachable

J.T. Tallon – not reachable

Vendors:

Mid-Cape Grain – no money issues. Pays on time.

B. Staples Hay – she is picky, wants quality product. No money issues

The Commissioners reviewed their Rating Sheets and held discussions regarding their views of the submittal. Rating Sheets were turned in to staff for the file.

Staff updated the Commissioners on the status of the DPW work on the driveway, parking area and barn.

Commissioners agreed that the applicant should provide additional financial costs information (particularly start-up costs). Staff will distribute old spreadsheet from prior submittal for informal Commission review.

Commissioner McDowell-May will contact the applicant and request a Certified Letter of Credit to verify financial funding ability.

Discussions were held on the proposed lease length and rent. It was agreed that rent of \$200/month might be appropriate for first 3 years of lease, with increase to minimum of \$500/month after 3 years. Commissioner Malone indicated that currently Rough Board fees are \$250-\$300 and Full Board fees are \$500-\$700. It is likely Ms. Cash will charge similar rates.

Commissioner McDowell-May will provide staff with a copy of State Agricultural Lease for use.

The Commissioners agreed to reconvene on Jan 9<sup>th</sup> to review the financial information and interview Ms. Cash.

**Ms. Malone moved to adjourn the meeting.**

**Ms. Eldredge seconded the motion.**

**VOTED**

**IN FAVOR 5**  
**OPPOSED 0**

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.